

DUTY STATEMENT

Class Title: Research Scientist II (Epi/Bio)	Position Number: 809-175-5582-901
Unit:	
Section: Epidemiologic Studies	
Branch: HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Branch	
Division: Office of AIDS	

This position requires the incumbent maintain consistent and regular attendance; communicate effectively (orally and in writing if both appropriate) in dealing with the public and/or other employees; develop and maintain knowledge and skill related to specific tasks, methodologies, materials, tools and equipment; complete assignments in a timely and efficient manner; and, adhere to departmental policies and procedures regarding attendance, leave, and conduct.

Job Summary: The Research Scientist II (RS II) oversees the successful implementation of important multi-site studies including an investigation to identify barriers to care among persons living with HIV, and an evaluation of changes in risk behaviors and quality of life among newly-enrolled clients of an HIV care and treatment program. The RSII conducts an evaluation of the impact of SB 1159, which permits pharmacists to sell needles and syringes without a prescription, by analyzing HIV/AIDS counseling and testing data to support the hypothesis that adoption of SB 1159 will decrease syringe sharing, syringe re-using, and syringe acquisition within communities. The RSII also assists in the analysis of data from recently-completed epidemiological studies and works towards developing abstracts and research articles for publication. This position requires a high degree of independent research design skills and the application of novel research methodologies and techniques. The RS II acts as a resource to management and staff for complex, advanced research and statistical methods.

Supervision Received: General direction and supervision from the Research Scientist Supervisor II, Chief of the Epidemiologic Studies Section.

Supervision Exercised: None

Description of Duties: The RS II is required to execute complex and difficult statistical analyses using SAS or SPSS computer programs and other statistical software, including logistic regression analyses and similar multivariate techniques; evaluate current literature on HIV epidemiology and surveillance to assess design adequacy, sources of bias, appropriateness of interpretations, and applicability of conclusions; write scientific publications on the results of HIV epidemiologic studies and outcomes of prevention interventions; and present research results to appropriate individuals and groups at meetings and conferences.

Percent of Time Essential Functions

25%	Independently and in consultation with Office of AIDS (OA) staff, other DHS staff, state and local health departments, the University of California, San Diego, and other interested parties, assist in the implementation of a multi-site, three-year study to assess barriers to HIV care and treatment among persons who have received an HIV diagnosis but have never accessed HIV medical care; work closely with the research team at the University of California, San Diego to ensure that project staff are properly trained in and adherent to the study protocol; correspond with the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects and submit necessary materials for project renewal; conduct analyses of data, abstracts, and final reports for presentation at meetings with project staff.
-----	---

- 20% Work as a team member to develop research questions and conduct related statistical analyses of data from recently-completed epidemiological studies for abstracts for submission to professional meetings and articles for submission to peer-reviewed journals.
- 20% Independently and in consultation with OA staff, other DHS staff, state and local health departments, and other interested parties, assist in the implementation of an evaluation of the OA Early Intervention Program (EIP); work closely with staff from the Early Intervention Section and selected EIP sites to assess changes in risk behaviors and quality of life among new EIP clients; develop databases for data entry and cleaning; and conduct analyses for a final report to present at meetings with project staff.
- 20% As part of a team of researchers from the Prevention Research and Evaluation (PRE) Section and the University of California, Dominguez Hills, investigate the impact of SB 1159 by analyzing HIV counseling and testing data to identify decreases in syringe sharing, syringe re-using, and syringe acquisition within communities allowing pharmacists to sell needles and syringes without a prescription.
- 10% Provide technical consultation to research and administrative entities within OA, the Department, and other state agencies on their HIV/AIDS epidemiology and surveillance programs; provide technical advice to local programs on HIV/AIDS surveillance activities; and represent OA in meetings with advocacy groups and provider organizations concerned with HIV/AIDS related research issues.

Percent of Time Marginal Functions

5% Other duties as required.

Some travel required.

Employee's signature	Date	Supervisor' signature	Date